

10/530147
JC06 Rec'd PCT/PTO 01 APR 2005

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

SPECIFICATION

TITLE

DEVICE AND METHOD FOR GUIDING A CONTINUOUS WEB BY
MEANS OF A PIVOTABLE APPARATUS

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BACKGROUND

The present preferred embodiment relates to devices for guiding an endless web as used for example in a printer or copier. The present preferred embodiment also relates to methods for guiding an endless web.

10 In the guiding of a paper web through a printer, non-uniform mechanical properties of the web or a basic setting of the various guide rolls that is not precisely parallel can result in a lateral shifting of the paper web, and can cause the formation of waves in some areas and/or sagging at one side of the web, even if the front edge is running in a stable fashion. At points 15 of deflection with counter-pressure or back pressure rolls, as are, for example, required for transport, such waves can be pressed to form folds. In addition, sagging at one side of the web, for example in the area of a fixing station that operates in contactless fashion, is disturbing, because the sagging web segment can come into contact with mechanical parts, so that the toner 20 images are smudged, or the sagging segment is exposed to an excessively high energy load.

From US-A-5,021,673, a device is known for guiding a paper web in which for the guiding of the web, rolls are situated at both lateral edges that exert pressure on the web with different forces. In this way, a lateral shifting 25 of the web can be corrected.

In US-A-5,323,944, a device for controlling the lateral position of a web is described with which the web is guided between a pressure roll and a counter-pressure roll. The pressure roll can be pivoted, and the force exerted 30 on the counter-pressure roll along its shaft or axle can be varied in order to shift the side edges of the web. The current position of the side edges of the web is acquired using optoelectronic sensors.